Bulletin #2014-003 11 – February - 2014

Subject:
Rabbit

Overview:
The following rule changes are effective immediately.

1. Add the following as Article 1.7.E.2.c.

   c. Rabbit: At Rally America National Championship events where the stewards have determined a need for a Rabbit, the seeded draw will normally determine the 2nd though “seeded draw+1” initial start positions. The first car (Rabbit) on the road (or last for a reversed start order) for the initial start will be the highest seeded national entry, prepared to Open Class rules, but not in the seeded draw. This measure of placing the highest seeded non-draw National Open entry will not extend past any scheduled re-seed. The presence or absence of a Rabbit beyond the first MTC is not assured and subject to conditions of Force Majeure. The Stewards may make adjustments intended to ensure fair competition.

   The minimum “n” number for the rally will remain the number of cars in the seeded draw +1 unless adjusted by the Stewards to a greater number due to Super Rally. If there is only one entry in the seeded draw, that entry will be 1st at the initial start. If there are no cars in the seeded draw, the "n" number will be zero.

   For a Rabbit to be employed, the Stewards must declare their intentions prior to the scheduled seeded draw.

2. Replace Article 1.7.E.5 with the following.

   5. Seeded Draw

      a. When a Rabbit is not employed

         The competitors will draw in order of speed factor with the

highest speed factor going first and continuing in descending order. In the event of duplicate speed factors a coin toss will determine which competitor draws first. The numbers drawn will indicate the order of choice for road position. The competitor choosing number 1 will have first choice of road position among those in the draw. The competitor who chose number 2 will then have their choice of remaining road positions and so on until the draw is complete. Any competitors or their designates included but not present at the time of the seeded draw will have a steward draw for them and be assigned the highest road position available when that number is due to choose. The stewards may not adjust the initial starting position of those in the seeded draw. This initial start order carries no precedent for any reseed through the remainder of the event.

b. <u>When a Rabbit is employed</u>

<u>Competitors in the seeded draw will start in reverse order of Rally America National Championship points (order of championship points for a reversed start order). Competitors who are tied for National Championship points will draw for road positions amongst those tied per 1.7.E.5.a above.</u>

3. Add the following definition to Article 1.9.

Rabbit

A car added to the Seeded Draw to equalize competition between the other Seeded Draw cars by its placement in the starting order.

Rationale: The concept of the Rabbit and supporting rule changes are being introduced to address problems with the first car on the road getting an unfair advantage over its competitors. The rules for employing the Rabbit could be subject to adjustment in future Bulletins.

Questions regarding this bulletin received by Rally America from licensed Drivers and Co-Drivers will be answered in writing.